

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. [Currently amended] A fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the fitment comprising:

a generally cylindrical spout having an external surface capable of mating with a collar of a dispensing connector;

a generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within said spout and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof; and

a generally cylindrical internal slider having ports therein and movable axially within said external slider between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position wherein said ports are in fluid communication with said apertures to allow the flow of fluid through the fitment, the internal slider being movable from a closed position to the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider, to engage said internal slider, the fitment comprising a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the a~~ closed ~~positions~~ position, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

2. [Previously presented] The fitment according to claim 1, wherein said deformable members are located on said external slider.

3. [Currently amended] A container for holding and dispensing a fluid comprising:

a fitment attached to a wall of said container, forming a fluid outlet for the container and having a fluid passage therethrough;

a first generally cylindrical external slider complementarily shaped to said fluid passage and carried therein, the slider being movable axially with respect to the fluid passage and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof;

a second generally cylindrical internal slider complementarily shaped to said external slider and carried therein and having ports therein, said internal slider movable axially within said external slider, said internal slider movable between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position wherein said ports are in fluid communication with said apertures to allow the flow of fluid through the fitment and out of the container, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between a closed and the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider to engage said internal slider, the fitment comprising a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the a~~ closed positions position, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

4. [Previously presented] The fitment according to claim 1, wherein said apertures are defined by a plurality of radially spaced posts connecting a base of said external slider having said deformable members thereon to the sidewalls of said external slider, said posts being spaced from said spout to allow liquid to flow therethrough in the open position.

5. [Currently amended] The fitment according to claim 1, wherein said deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders are biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the a~~ closed positions position by abutting against at least a portion of the other slider.

6. [Currently amended] A double slider valve for use in a fitment having a spout, the fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the double slider valve comprising:

a generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within the spout and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof; and

a generally cylindrical internal slider movable axially within said external slider and having a series of ports located therein to allow the passage of

fluid therethrough, said internal slider movable between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position in which the apertures and the ports are aligned and define a passageway through which fluid can flow, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between a closed and the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and

a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the~~ a closed positions position, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

7. [Currently amended] A valve according to claim 6, wherein said deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders are biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the~~ a closed positions position by abutting against at least a portion of the other slider.

8. [Previously presented] A fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the fitment comprising:

a spout having an external surface capable of mating with a collar of a dispensing connector and defining a fluid passageway therethrough;

an external slider movable axially within said fluid passageway; and

an internal slider movable axially within said external slider, said internal slider movable between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the passageway and an open position operable to allow the flow of fluid through the passageway, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between a closed position and the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and

the external slider having integral biasing means located thereon to bias the internal slider into a closed position from the open position.

9. [Previously presented] A fitment according to claim 8, wherein the biasing means comprises at least one deformable member located on the external slider, the at least one deformable member biased in the open position by abutting against at least a portion of the internal slider.

10. [Previously presented] A container for holding and dispensing fluid comprising:

a fitment attached to a wall of said container, forming an outlet for the container extending from the fluid storage space within the container;

an external slider complementarily shaped to said fluid passage and carried therein, the slider being axially movable with respect to the fluid passage; and

an internal slider complementarily shaped to said external slider and carried therein, said internal slider movable axially within said external slider between at least one closed position operable to prevent the fluid from flowing through the fitment and an open position operable to allow fluid to flow through the fitment and out of the container, the internal slider being biased towards a closed position from the open position by at least one integral biasing member located on said external slider.

11. [Cancelled]

12. [Previously presented] A double slider valve for use in a fitment having a spout, the fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the double slider valve comprising:

a generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within the spout and having apertures therein; and

a generally cylindrical internal slider movable axially within said external slider and having a series of ports located therein to allow the passage of fluid therethrough, said internal slider movable between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position in which the apertures and the ports are aligned and define a passageway through which fluid can flow, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between a closed position and the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and integral biasing means on said external slider for resiliently biasing said internal slider towards a closed position.

13. [Currently amended] A valve according to claim 12, wherein the biasing means comprises deformable members integrally formed on the external slider, which are biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to ~~one of the~~ a closed positions position by abutting against at least a portion of the internal slider.

14. [Previously presented] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment comprises two closed positions.

15. [Previously presented] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment comprises a plurality of closed positions.

16. [Currently amended] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment has ~~an initial~~ a closed position prior to insertion of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a portion of a sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider and a ~~subsequent~~ closed position after removal of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between ~~a second~~ another portion of the sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider.

17. [Previously presented] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment comprises two closed positions.

18. [Previously presented] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment comprises a plurality of closed positions.

19. [Currently amended] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment has ~~an initial~~ a closed position prior to insertion of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a portion of a sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider and a ~~subsequent~~ closed position after removal of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between ~~a second~~ another portion of the sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider.